

ATHENS RADIO CLUB MINUTES

May 5, 2020

The meeting was held on the Zoom platform.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by President Jesse Hickey, N4JAH

In attendance 15.

Geeter, Nola KG4OVO -Treasurer
Hallman, Gerald KN4AAA
Herrin, Bob KE4JLL- Public Service
Hickey, Jesse N4JAH- President
Johnson, Bruce P.-KX4AZ
Koehler, Phil AF4TQ
Lester, Al KN4ZOR
McCook, Kathleen KN4IJM -Secretary
McKinnon, Howell KM4ZXR
Reeves, James KF4AQO - VE Coordinator and Repeater Trustee
Rollor, Ed N4ZRA-ARES
Slutsky,Alan KA4FJV
Strang, Sam KN4SPF
Teal, Michael
Waters, Rick WA4ERS – Past-President/ Hams Helping Other Hams.

=====

Announcements

- The Repeater has not been performing at the level expected but the restrictions on visiting the top of St. Mary's where the repeater is located have prevented investigation. Jess Hickey, NAJAH, has been in touch with the manufacturer troubleshooting but hands-on work is halted until the COVID-19 strictures are lifted.
- The online auction for items donated to the club is open and sales are going well. After the club-only opportunities to bid are complete the remaining items will be posted at Craigs list. The club appreciates Jess Hickey's coordination of the auction and the generosity of the donor. Jess will coordinate with Treasurer Nola Geeter,KG4OVO, to deposit funds. Nola and Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM have also been monitoring the bid site.

New Business

- **Minutes of the April 7, 2020 meeting were approved.**
- **Treasurers Report:**
 - Treasurer, Nola Geeter KG4OVO
 - Funds:
\$1,979.40, which includes the \$725.05 left from the donation for the repeater.
- **Repeater**
 - James Reeves, KF4AQO repeater trustee reaffirmed that until the shelter-in-place mandate is lifted we won't be able to go to St.Mary's to troubleshoot.
- **ARES**
 - Ed Rollor, N4ZRA, reported there had been no recent ARES activity.
- **VE Report-**
 - James Reeves, KF4AQO reported that he is monitoring ARRL guidelines for VE testing. Considering options for testing during the restrictions due to COVID-19. Suggested the club might get a PayPal account to consolidate payment of test fees.
- **Public Service Report**
 - Bob Herrin, KE4JLL, reported that all public service events including G day have been cancelled due to COVID-19.

Program -Show Me Your Shack

Club members in attendance used the Zoom platform to share shack set-ups. Equipment was shown via ZOOM and explained. Call signs were admired, notably Bob Herrin, KE4JLL who had a light up sign that can change colors and James Reeves, KF4AQO, whose sign had been created by a 3-D printer. One member, who shall not be named, explained that due to HOA restrictions he could not put up an antenna, but after dark he moves one out into the driveway. Discussion about ways to circumvent HOA restrictions ensued.

Jess Hickey, N4JAH, bragged "I have 6141 QSOs, 3980 confirmed, in 169 DXCC entities, 151 confirmed in 3 years...all on 100W and a wire!" Rick Waters, WA4ERS, reported DX contacts included Italy, Bulgaria, and France as the furthest ones made, Italy from mobile!

Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM showed the book she is reading about the inventor of Morse Code:

New Business

President Jess Hickey, N4JAH reported that the Executive Committee voted to continue with field day planning with optimism that the loosening of the shelter-in-place mandate will make it possible. The planning group will

monitor ARRL guidelines and coordinate with the YMCA.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

Future dates:

- June 2, 2020: 7:30 Athens Radio Club Meeting - Topic: "Balloon Launch with APRS, FM Repeater, & On-Board Camera"
- June 27-28, 2020: FIELD DAY

Submitted by Kathleen McCook KN4IJM, Secretary